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# TRUMP THIS

## Vancouver construction worker reminds Republican front-runner just who helped build his empire

metroNEWS

**Mexican-Canadian Diego Reyna** hung a Mexican flag at the top of Trump tower in Vancouver to send Donald Trump a message: "This building is standing here today, thanks to us." FACEBOOK

# Vancouver home sales hit record

REAL ESTATE

## Over 5,000 houses were sold in March

**Tereza Verenca**
For Metro | Vancouver

Metro Vancouver's hot housing market looks like it won't be cooling off anytime soon.

Home sales in the region surpassed 5,000 in March, making it the highest selling month on record for the Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver (REBGV). Residential property sales totalled 5,173, an increase of 27.4 per cent when compared to the same time last year.

"We're surprised that the market keeps moving up, but we're not surprised in another sense because the fundamentals are still all there," REBGV president Dan Morrison told Metro. "We have a very robust economy, strong job growth in our province, we still have positive net migration and we have low interests rates, so there's no reason why it shouldn't keep going (up)."

New listings totalled 6,278 last month, representing a 5.2 per cent increase compared to a year ago. But the total number of properties for sale in the MLS system currently sits at 7,358, a 40.5 per cent drop when compared to March 2015.

Despite new inventory coming on the market, Morrison said homes are selling so fast that the inventory doesn't have time to accumulate. On average, it takes between one to two weeks to sell a home in Metro Vancouver, he noted, while in a "normal market," it can take up to 90 days.

"If you're going to buy a loaf of bread and there's only one on the shelf and you're standing in line to buy it, then every time one showed up, the next person in line bought it," he explained. "But if a truck load of bread showed up, then the grocery might have to drop the price because he's taken the heat out of the market."

The benchmark price for all home types across the region came in at $815,000, up 23.2 per cent. Detached properties, meanwhile, increased 27 per cent from March 2015 to $1.3 million. That hefty price tag has homeowners looking at apartments and townhomes instead, said Morrison. Apartment sales soared by 38 per cent in March, while townhome sales increased by 9 per cent.

The benchmark price for both also increased — an apartment sold for $462,800 in March, while a townhome sold for just over $589,000.

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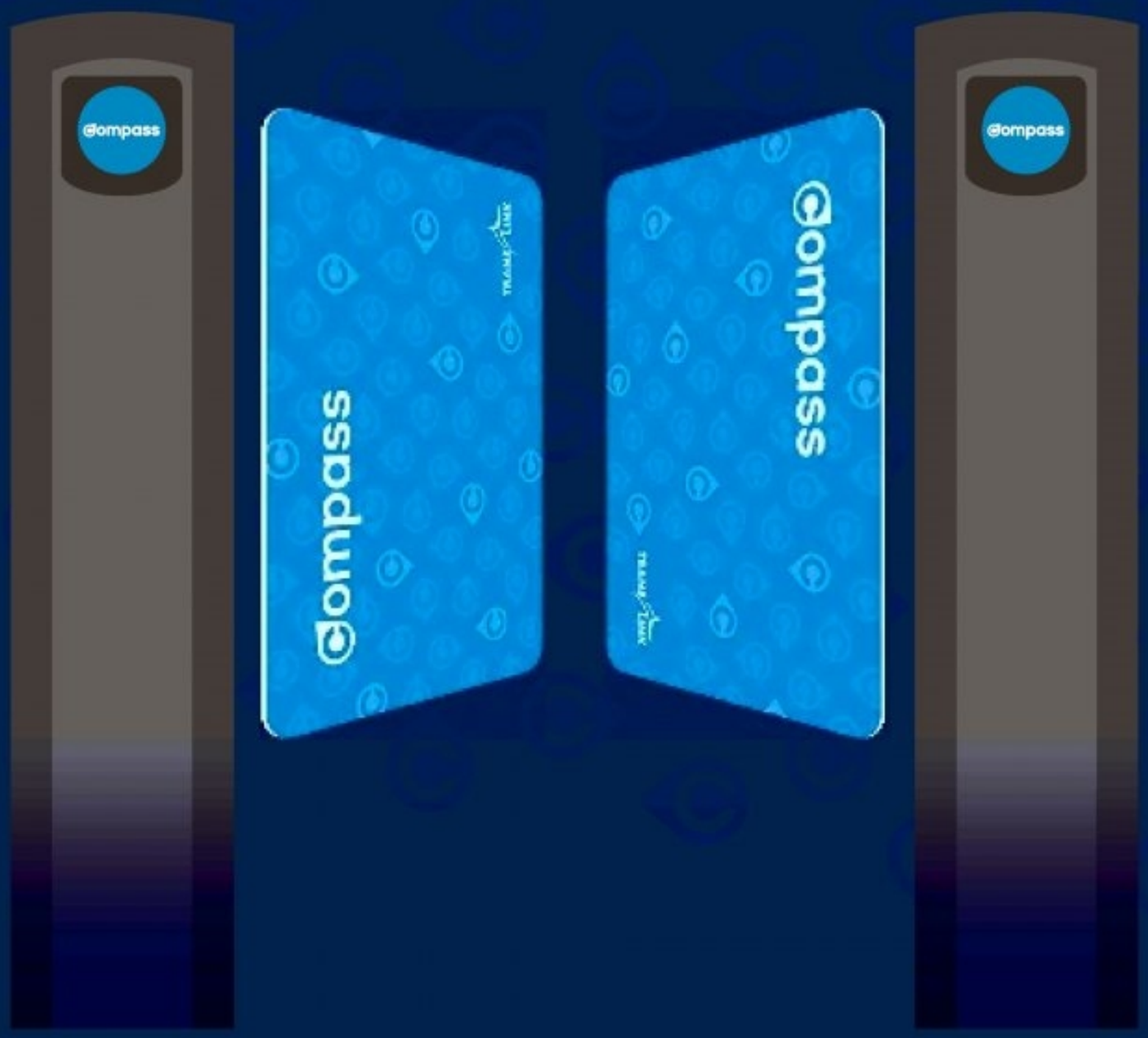


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TRANSLINK

metro NEWS
Your essential daily news
Tuesday, April 5, 2016

A "perfect storm" of conditions in the 2014-15 flu season may have contributed to the lowest effectiveness of the influenza vaccine in 10 years, study says.

Edward Snowden speaks during an interview in Hong Kong. Snowden is known for exposing extensive government surveillance of people's digital communications. COURTESY THE GUARDIAN VIA GETTY IMAGES

# Snowden talk a 'coup' for city

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

## Recent news of Panama Papers a lucky bonus

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

As the world reels from the release of the Panama Papers, Vancouverites are set to get a timely and unique perspective from the most famous leaker of all: Edward Snowden.

The National Security Agency whistleblower will speak, via web link, to a sold-out audience at Queen Elizabeth Theatre on Tuesday evening as part of a Simon Fraser University Public Square forum.

The forum, announced in February and sold out in six hours, was already going to delve deep into issues of big data, security and human rights during the panel discussion but feels even more relevant in light of reportedly the biggest data leak in history.

The Panama Papers, leaked to more than 100 news organizations, contains the private database of law firm Mossack Fonseca and reveals how offshore tax havens are used by companies and individuals, including some world leaders, to avoid billions of dollars in taxes.

Simon Fraser University communications professor Catherine Murray, one of the expert panelists speaking at the event, could hardly believe her luck.

"There was no setup for this, no way we could have contemplated the Panama Papers (coinciding with Snowden's talk)," she said. "We'll have to wait and see what he has to say about it, but he's going to be no doubt deeply engaged."

Snowden is known for exposing extensive and sophisticated government surveillance of people's digital communications and data.

He's currently living in Russia out of fear of being arrested by the United States but is active online and frequently appears via video at events to give talks.

It's not even the first time he's spoken at a Vancouver-based event.

Snowden was among the high-profile speakers to appear (digitally, in his case) at TED2014, giving a speech on how to "take back the Internet."

Murray said Snowden is at the very top of the list of people that SFU grad students — "the data analysts and hackers of tomorrow" — want to hear from.

"This is a coup for Vancouver," she said.

The forum will also be live streamed at SFU Public Square's Youtube channel starting at 7 p.m.

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COUNCIL

# Going further with traffic safety goals

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

A Vancouver councillor wants the city to up the ante on its goal for zero traffic-related fatalities and strive for zero traffic-related serious injuries, too.

Coun. Heather Deal will introduce a motion at council this week calling on staff to develop a strategy to get to zero fatalities and serious injuries for pedestrians and cyclists. Mayor Gregor Robertson announced Monday he will support the action.

"Our ultimate goal is to eliminate all fatalities within our active transportation system and make sure road users feel safe and comfortable getting around Vancouver, whether by bike, foot, car or transit," Robertson said in a statement.

"We need to keep making strides to ensure that our streets and sidewalks are safe for people of all ages and abilities."

Council included the zero fatality goal in the Transportation 2040 plan approved in fall 2012. But Deal's motion notes that other cities with the goal of eliminating traffic-related deaths are also working towards zero serious injuries.

Many cyclists that are hurt on the city's streets do not report their serious injuries to ICBC when no motor vehicles are involved, so the number of serious accidents is underreported, according to a city cycling safety study.

But pedestrians remain the most vulnerable road users. Of the 72 people killed in traffic between 2010 and 2014, 40 were pedestrians, according to the Vancouver police. Nine drivers, 11 passengers, eight motorcyclists and four cyclists were also killed.

The city has implemented 68 out of 69 actions recommended in a pedestrian safety study and wants to build 12 new bike lanes in the next five years to improve cycling safety.

If Deal's motion passes, city staff will report back on quick actions to improve safety by June 2016.

**12**

The city wants to build 12 new bike lanes in the next five years to improve cycling safety.

The Burrard and Pacific intersection is one of the hot spots for collisions in the city of Vancouver. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Passengers navigate the fully closed fare gates at Lougheed Town Centre on Monday. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

# Metro Van's fare gate era officially begins

PUBLIC TRANSIT

## TransLink starts gate closures across the system

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

Tap or you shall not pass!

TransLink's implementation of fare gates across Metro Vancouver's public transit system entered its final stage Monday as the barriers were fully closed at some stations in Burnaby, New Westminster and Richmond.

Thousands of people arrived at Lougheed Town Centre station in the morning to find all six fare gates in the closed position.

Already accustomed to using the electronic Compass fare cards from a prolonged trial period, the majority of passengers bound for the SkyTrain effortlessly navigated the gates by tapping their cards to gain entry to the station.

Some fruitlessly tried to tap into a gate designated only for those leaving the station (red "No Entry" screens were visible) and were left briefly dumbfounded until an attendant pointed them toward the right gates.

Fewer still arrived with incompatible paper bus transfers and were told they need to purchase a valid Compass card to enter the station.

TransLink spokesperson Jennifer Morland was on hand to witness the transition first-hand and said the transit authority has done everything possible (by introducing the system in phases, increasing staffing levels and widely advertising the closures) to make sure people knew about the new status quo.

"It's a big day," she said. "Generally speaking, we're seeing that the majority of our customers are travelling with Compass. When I'm riding on the system or take a bus, I see people are tapping and it's the same at the station here."

Morland said there are nearly 750,000 Compass cards now in circulation.

About 1.3 million taps are recorded on an average workday.

TransLink will continue to heavily staff all stations this week as people adjust to the gate closures.

In addition to keeping fare evaders off transit, TransLink will use the electronic fare system to optimize bus routes and commutes.

"The big benefit for us is the information that we're going to get about how customers are using the system," said Morland. "That information is going to feed into our planning for buses. We'll get an understanding for what the busiest routes are and where people are transferring from so it'll be able to better assist our system planning."

Morland said gates will close at 10 new stations each day until the entire system is secured by Friday.

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# Worker flies Mexican flag atop Trump tower

SOCIAL MEDIA

## 'It's Mexicans that built this tower,' worker declares

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

A Mexican-Canadian construction worker created an online sensation for flying a Mexican flag from the rooftop of the prestigious Vancouver Trump Tower over the weekend to poke at U.S. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump.

Port Moody, B.C. resident Diego Reyna put up the Mexican flag in response to Trump's comments about Mexicans being criminals and rapists, according to his Facebook post that was shared over 5,000 times by Monday afternoon.

"It's Mexicans that built this tower. This building is standing here today thanks to us, to our work, our labour," Reyna said in a YouTube video that showcases the view from the swanky, soon-to-be-complete building in Vancouver's financial district.

"So there's a little present for Mr. Trump, so every time you judge us you can think, who is building your towers? We are."

The construction crew that built the 63-storey tower — one city councillor called it a "beacon of racism" after Trump suggested banning Muslims from the U.S. — included many Mexican labourers who worked on everything from the steel framing to the drywall, Reyna said.

"Mr. Trump, we did our best work, your tower here in Vancouver is premium quality, and we were a crucial part of it, not just Mexicans but immigrants as a whole," Reyna wrote, asking people to share his post so it makes it to Trump's newsfeed.

Reyna joins a chorus of more than 50,000 Vancouverites, including Mayor Gregor Robertson, who signed a petition asking developer Holborn to remove Trump's brand from the Arthur Erikson-designed tower.

Holborn CEO Joo Kim Tiah is overseas and could not immediately be reached for comment, but he has previously stated Holborn has contracts with Trump International that cannot be altered.

"Holborn, a company that has contributed immensely to the growth of Vancouver, is not in any way involved in U.S. politics. As such, we would not comment further on Mr. Trump's personal or political agenda, nor any political issues, local or foreign," according to a December statement from Holborn.

Donald Trump announces plans for his latest Trump Tower in Vancouver on Mar. 19, 2013. Mexican-Canadian Diego Reyna hung a Mexican flag at the top of Trump tower in Vancouver to send Trump a message. EMILY JACKSON/METRO FILE

> **So there's a little present for Mr. Trump, so every time you judge us you can think, who is building your towers? We are.** Diego Reyna

Diego Reyna FACEBOOK

SURVEY

## Low-income families need dental care: Prof

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

A University of British Columbia nursing professor isn't smiling after releasing a new study into the need for better dental care for low-income patients.

A survey of 567 clients at four primary health-care community clinics in B.C. and Ontario — which all serve a significant number of low-income and indigenous people — found that 46 per cent of patients rated their oral health as "fair" to "poor" and 44 per cent experience pain in their teeth and mouth, according to the university.

Those numbers are three times higher than the national average.

But because dentistry isn't provided under Canada's public health-care system and is largely only affordable through third-party employer insurance plans, lead researcher Annette Browne said those outcomes are unlikely to change anytime soon.

"We didn't anticipate the extent to which people would rate their dental health as poor," Browne told Metro. "Oral heath is absolutely a basic part of people's overall health. It's a major thing having a gnawing pain in your mouth. It can affect what you can eat, adjust nutrition and your ability to have a healthy person."

She said many people in vulnerable groups put off dealing with dental issues, which could develop into something more serious, because they have more pressing concerns.

Browne recommends rolling preventative and emergency dental care into community clinics to serve low-income groups better.

Eventually, she wants to see a bigger national conversation about some publicly funded dental care in the country.

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# Judge orders edit of Aquarium film

COURT

## Documentary critiques site's treatment of its animals

A B.C. filmmaker says he expects to get more attention after a judge ordered him to edit out segments of a documentary that criticizes the Vancouver Aquarium.

Gary Charbonneau was instructed Monday to remove just under five minutes of video from his hour-long film, Vancouver Aquarium Uncovered, within seven days. The film examines the facility's treatment of dolphins and beluga whales.

> **It is the preferred course to maintain the status quo pending trial.**
> Judge Jeanne Watchuk

Judge Jeanne Watchuk of the British Columbia Supreme Court granted the aquarium an injunction after it filed a notice of civil claim in February against the filmmaker and his company, Evotion Films Inc.

The aquarium alleges that Charbonneau used images and video from its website and blog without permission. It also argues he violated a contract allowing him to film at the facility.

Charbonneau contends the material is covered by the fair dealing provision of the Copyright Act. He said he gave proper credit and used the material to educate the public.

Watchuk said the issues are for a trial judge to decide.

"In granting this order, I am mindful of the inconvenience to the defendants to excise the contentious segments," Watchuk said. "However, it is the preferred course to maintain the status quo pending trial."

The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre said in a statement it's pleased with the decision.

The centre said it's seeking to protect copyrighted materials developed to raise awareness about ocean conservation.

"We feel strongly that the conservation, research and education programs we lead need to be fairly represented and protected from those who choose to deliberately make false claims," said the statement.

None of the allegations have been tested in court.

Charbonneau called the decision an "enormous victory," noting the aquarium sought the removal of the entire film from public websites, including YouTube and the filmmaker's personal site.

He said the film will stand even with the ordered edits.

"All the facts are there about the aquarium," he said outside court. "A lot of the other stuff was filler."

The documentary alleges that belugas kept in captivity have a much higher infant death rate than those in the wild.

It also claims the aquarium is buying dolphins from Japan under the pretence of a rescue and rehabilitation program.

In a blog post it has previously published, the aquarium disputes many of the film's allegations.

The post attributes the deaths of four beluga calves over four decades to unrelated and unpreventable causes.

It also says that the two dolphins that arrived at the facility in 2005 from Japan were rescued after getting badly injured in fixed fishing nets. THE CANADIAN PRESS

People watch the belugas in the underwater viewing area at the Vancouver Aquarium. METRO FILE

If spring's arrival is your cue to explore richer hues and bolder patterns, you owe it to yourself to see what's just arrived at Harry Rosen. Take Canali's Spring 2016 Collection, for instance. The brand's trademark razor-sharp tailoring is on full display, and in fabrics and colours that complement the warmer weather while dominating the boardroom. Piqued your interest? One of our clothing advisors would be pleased to show you the collection in person. Or if you prefer, visit us online at harryrosen.com, where you can chat, email or book an appointment with an advisor.

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New Nordic recommends a healthy and active lifestyle in order to obtain the best results. To make sure this product is right for you, always read the label and follow the instructions.

The Star Princess arrived at Canada Place on Monday, marking the start of the 2016 cruise season. TEREZA VERENCA/FOR METRO

# Cruise season gets underway

VACATION

## Port Metro Vancouver to see 3% jump in passengers

**Tereza Verenca**
For Metro | Vancouver

Port Metro Vancouver's cruise season officially kicked off on Monday with the arrival of the Star Princess at Canada Place.

The city is expected to welcome roughly 830,000 passengers on 228 calls this year, which also happens to be the 30th anniversary of Canada Place.

"It's about a three per cent increase over last year," said Port Metro's Carmen Ortega. "The number of calls is actually the same. What we're seeing is larger ships coming in."

> The number of calls is actually the same. What we're seeing is larger ships coming in. Carmen Ortega

The Vancouver cruise industry stimulates more than $2 million in economic activity for each ship that calls at Canada Place, Ortega added.

In 2015, a party of three people spent $649 in Vancouver and another $264 in other parts of B.C.

The majority of passengers (62 per cent) came from the U.S., while 23 per cent were from overseas and 16 per cent were from Canada.

**830K**

**Number of passengers the city is expected to welcome on 228 calls this year.**

Port Metro Vancouver was recently handed the best destination experience award by Cruise Insight Magazine.

Ortega said Vancouver has remained a very interesting destination over the years, especially after Expo 86 and the 2010 Olympics.

### IN BRIEF

**Truck spills diesel into river south of Princeton**

B.C.'s Environment Ministry says about 20,000 litres of diesel fuel from a transport truck have spilled into the Similkameen River south of Princeton.

The truck was involved in an incident on Highway 3 at about 8 a.m. Monday.

Interior Health spokeswoman Tara Gostelow says no regulated water sources downstream have been affected, though that may not be the case for users of private wells or unlicensed water. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EMPLOYMENT

## New harassment suit filed against WestJet

A former WestJet flight attendant has launched a second lawsuit against the airline, alleging it doesn't provide a harassment-free workplace for its female employees.

Mandalena Lewis filed documents in B.C. Supreme Court on Monday, asking that the case be granted class-action status on behalf of all WestJet female flight attendants.

Lewis originally launched a lawsuit against WestJet earlier this year over allegations the airline didn't take proper action after she reported being sexually assaulted by a pilot while on a stopover in Hawaii.

Lewis says in a statement she decided to file a class-action case after other women came to her with stories of harassment.

A spokeswoman for WestJet says the company hasn't yet been served with the notice of claim so it is not in a position to comment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Electric vehicles revving up

ROADS

## Sales in B.C. have increased over the past five years

**Trevor Beggs**
For Metro | Vancouver

More than 300 people lined up to put down $1,000 on the new Tesla Model 3 at the Robson dealership last Thursday.

They were among the 276,000 people worldwide to deposit money towards the new Tesla, even though it won't be released until late 2017.

"This is our dream as electric vehicle promoters," said Bruce Stout of the Vancouver Electric Vehicle Association.

Stout was among the crowd of people at the Tesla dealership on Thursday, and he was overwhelmed by the local response towards the new model.

"I've never in my life seen a lineup of over 300 people at a car dealership to deposit money on a car that they haven't seen yet," he said.

An electric vehicle charging station in Vancouver. MATT DESOUZA/METRO FILE

Electric vehicles are becoming more common in British Columbia. In 2011, there were approximately 160 electric vehicles in the province, according to ICBC.

As of 2015, that number had ballooned to 3,200 electric vehicles.

A report from fleetcarma, an EV research company, says that B.C. had the most electric vehicle sales per capita in 2015.

Matthew Klippenstein, a local engineer who tracks Canadian electric vehicle sales for GreenCarReports.com, says that the report only includes pure battery electric vehicles. Plug-in hybrids are more popular in Quebec and Ontario.

His own report on electric vehicle sales shows that B.C. residents are increasingly staking their claim among Canadian electric vehicle sales. In 2015, B.C. had the second-highest EV sales per million people, narrowly finishing behind Quebec.

One reason why B.C. can expect an increase in EV sales is because the provincial government re-introduced the Clean Energy Vehicle for BC program last year.

The program offers up to $5,000 to B.C. residents who purchase or lease a new battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle.

Making electric vehicles affordable is one of the most important factors for increasing EV sales in the market.

"There is less that goes wrong in electric vehicles," said Klippenstein, "but there's still an up-front cost premium"

Another factor would be to increase the ease of electric vehicle charging. Two weeks ago, the B.C. government announced that they have invested $688,500 into the installation of electric-vehicle charging stations, primarily in condominium and apartment buildings.

"There are a variety of positive factors that are coming together right now," said Klippenstein. "This gives me hope and enthusiasm that sales will continue to grow."

### PLANT

**B.C. NDP urges federal environmental body to withhold LNG approval**

British Columbia's Opposition New Democrats are urging a federal environmental agency to withhold approval of the proposed $36-billion liquefied-natural-gas project near Prince Rupert.

NDP Leader John Horgan says in a letter to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency the proposed Pacific NorthWest LNG project does not meet First Nations and environmental approval conditions.

The letter highlights First Nations concerns about risks to salmon in the Skeena River ecosystem and climate threats to marine habitat, species and high and inadequately regulated greenhouse gas emissions.

Environment Minister Catherine McKenna announced last month that the federal cabinet will be ready to make a decision on the project within 90 days.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

## Surrey reaches 31 shootings

**Emily Jackson**
Metro | Vancouver

Surrey RCMP officers are investigating two shootings in less than 24 hours, bringing the total number of shootings in the city up to 31 this year — nearly one every three days.

The latest shooting was in broad daylight on Monday near 86A Avenue and 140th Street. Reports from the scene showed a black car with its window shattered. One man was transported to hospital with a non-life-threatening gunshot wound, according to RCMP. Police believe the incident was targeted.

The shooting followed a Sunday evening shooting at 88 Avenue and 132 Street around 5:45 p.m. where occupants of an SUV fired into a car when the vehicles were stopped at a red light, according to a statement from Staff Sgt. Dale Carr. It's not clear whether anyone was injured.

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EQUALITY

# Panellist to develop shortlist of women for 2018 bank note

Left to right: Michael Redhead Champagne, Perdita Felicien, Dominic Giroux, and Merna Forster. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Bank of Canada has appointed a group of people to develop a short list of Canadian women whose images could appear on a new banknote in 2018.

In announcing the panel Monday, the bank said it has received more than 18,000 submissions since issuing a public call for nominations last month. Those responses include the names of about 120 different women.

The advisory council will narrow the list to between 10 and 12 nominees and survey Canadians on those names. From there, the advisers will listen to expert advice as they trim the list further, to between three and five women.

Bank governor Stephen Poloz and Finance Minister Bill Morneau will discuss the final candidates, with Morneau making the ultimate call.

Poloz and Carolyn Wilkins, the bank's senior deputy governor, announced the council on Monday at an Ottawa elementary school named after astronaut Roberta Bondar.

"Banknotes aren't really just money — I like to think of them as being little pieces of art that tell Canada's story," Wilkins told students.

The council members are: writer Gurjinder Basran; Michael Redhead Champagne, youth activist and founder of AYO! (Aboriginal Youth Opportunities); Margaret Conrad, professor emerita, University of New Brunswick; Francine Descarries, sociology professor, Universite du Quebec a Montreal; Perdita Felicien, world champion hurdler; Merna Forster, historian and author; Dominic Giroux, president and vice-chancellor, Laurentian University.

Only one woman has been featured on the currency since the Bank of Canada started designing and producing notes in 1937: the Queen.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced last month that a woman would be featured on the next issue of banknotes due out in 2018.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

# Records can be destroyed: Court

Survivors of Canada's notorious residential school system have the right to see their stories archived if they wish, but their accounts must otherwise be destroyed in 15 years, Ontario's top court ruled in a split decision Monday.

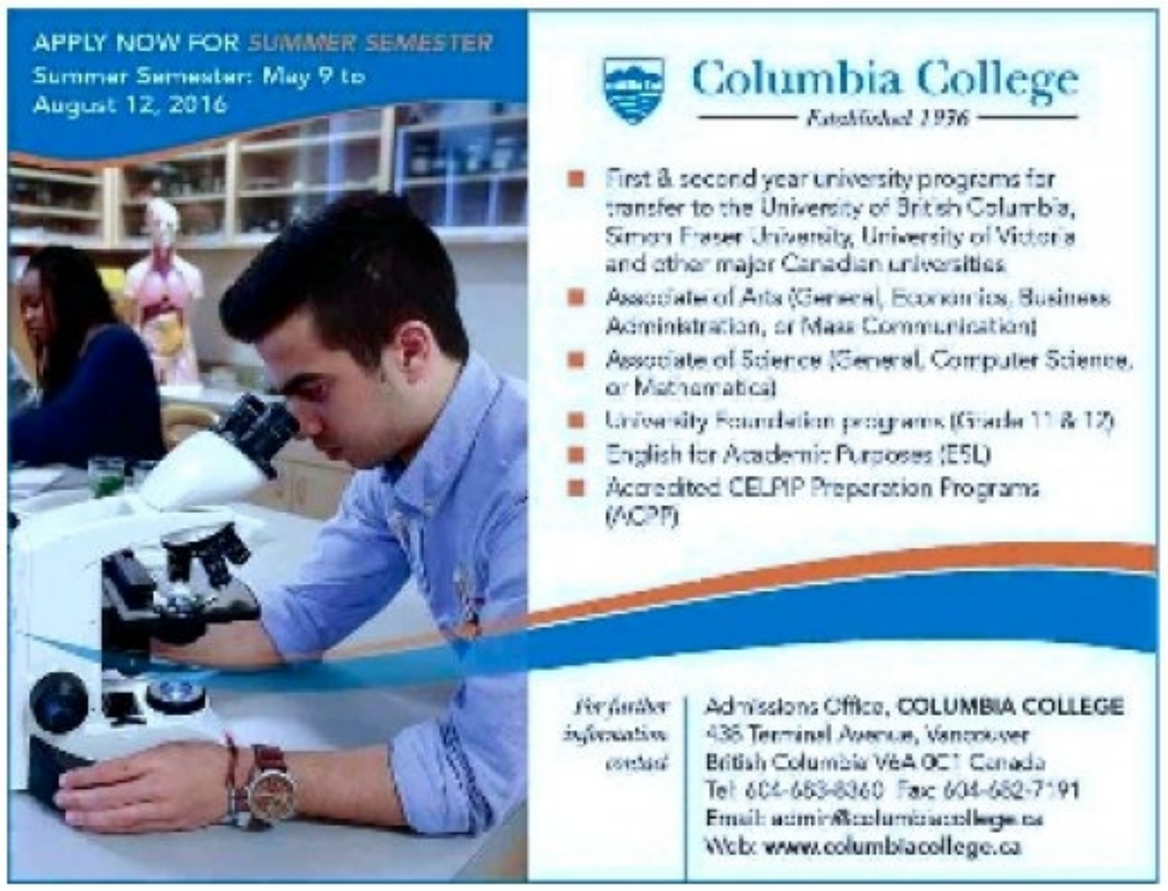
At issue are documents related to compensation claims made by as many as 30,000 survivors of Indian residential schools — many heart-rending accounts of sexual, physical and psychological abuse.

Compensation claimants never surrendered control of their stories, the Appeal Court said.

"Residential school survivors are free to disclose their own experiences, despite any claims that others may make with respect to confidentiality and privacy," the court said.

The decision came in response to various appeals and cross-appeals of a ruling by Superior Court Justice Paul Perell in 2014 related to claims made under the confidential independent assessment process (IAP) set up as part of an agreement that settled a class action against the government.

THE CANADIAN PRESS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A polar bear and her cubs huddle in near Churchill, Man. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

# Polar bears losing weight: Research

CLIMATE CHANGE

## Bears now have roughly 30 days less to hunt: Scientist

The world's southernmost population of polar bears has already lost significant amounts of body weight after decades of shrinking sea ice with breeding females suffering the most, says new research from the Ontario government.

"They're in poorer condition now than they were in the 1980s," said Martyn Obbard, of the province's natural resources department, one of the co-authors of the paper published by the National Research Council.

For decades, Obbard has been studying the roughly 900 bears that live along the northern Ontario coast from James Bay to the Manitoba boundary. Living on the southernmost fringe of polar bear habitat makes them uniquely vulnerable to climate change, he said.

**900**
**The number of polar bears studied by the province over three decades.**

For about three decades, the Hudson Bay ice season has been shrinking at the rate of one day a year. That means bears now spend roughly 30 days less on the sea ice than their ancestors back in the 1980s.

Reduced sea ice has already been shown to be causing problems for bears on the bay's western shores. Bears depend on the ice to reach seals, an essential fatty, energy-rich meal. Reduced sea ice has already been shown to be causing problems for bears on the bay's western shores and Obbard wanted to see if the same was true further south.

Using data from 900 bear captures between 1984 to 2009, he found the average weight of males had dropped by 45 kilograms and females by 31 kilograms. The number of bears had remained stable, so the weight loss wasn't from increased competition.

But when Obbard compared the drops in bear weight to the number of days with the minimum amount of sea ice the bears need for a hunting platform, he found the two changes moved in parallel. He had found the answer.

"Take the simplest explanation — these dramatic changes in sea ice. Now that we have bears that are spending 30 days longer on land, they have 30 days shorter to hunt."

Some scientists suggest bears can replace those nice, fat seals with meals found on land — geese, eggs or moose calves.

But Obbard said those resources have always been available and didn't stop the slide in weight.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

# Driverless car makers, government regulators face ethical dilemma

Questions about how so-called driverless cars react to collisions and other ethical dilemmas need to be answered by governments because automakers lack the expertise, says a Canadian expert on the ethics of engineering.

Last month's federal budget included $7.3 million over two years to improve motor vehicle safety, with part of that going toward developing regulations for the automated vehicles that major automakers and technology firms are racing to bring to market.

Advocates for the country's high-tech and automotive sectors have urged Ottawa to tread lightly as it moves to create new rules for the autonomous vehicle industry.

But regulators need to come to grips with the complicated ethical and political questions that will emerge as the vehicles start rolling onto roadways in large numbers, says Jason Millar, an engineer who teaches philosophy at Carleton University.

"Ethical decision-making is not an engineering problem," Millar said in an interview Monday.

While many of the questions remain theoretical, they became more real in February when an autonomous car being tested by Google in California was partly blamed for an accident with a bus.

There were no injuries in what the company characterized as a minor fender-bender.

But academics and engineering experts cite the incident as proof that greater ethical issues are bound to arise, with more serious potential consequences.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

INVESTIGATION

## Feds to study 'tax gap'

A senator who has crusaded against tax evasion has released recent correspondence from the revenue minister revealing the government's plan to determine how much money Canada loses to tax dodgers.

Revenue Minister Diane Lebouthillier says in a Jan. 20 letter to Sen. Percy Downe that her department will try to estimate the value of Canada's so-called "tax gap," the difference between what is owed in taxes and what is actually collected.

The senator was responding to the leak of 11.5 million records from Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca, the authenticity of which the firm has confirmed.

Lebouthillier's letter says Canada will work with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, which uses the tax gap measure to help develop policies that target tax evaders.

But Downe said he won't cheer until the Canada Revenue Agency actually releases data to the parliamentary budget officer so he can begin measuring the gap. Downe said he that's why he plans to table a bill in the Senate next week that would require the government to measure the tax gap.

The Royal Bank said Monday it operates within the law and has policies to prevent tax evasion after reports said it used the Panamanian law firm whose leaked documents are said to reveal the use of offshore tax havens.

The bank said there are legitimate reasons to set up a holding company, but if it believes a client intends to commit a criminal offence by evading taxes, it would report that and not serve the client.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# A glimpse into how the rich hide their money

PANAMA PAPERS

## Shell companies used to obscure identities of true owners

A leak of 11.5 million documents from a Panama-based law firm offers a glimpse into the shadowy world where the rich and powerful hide their money, raising sharp questions about the use of shell companies that obscure the identities of their true owners.

Leaders of the Group of 20 — representing about 80 per cent of the global economy — have vowed to crack down on the practice, which is blamed for helping conceal money laundering, corruption and tax evasion.

By themselves, shell companies aren't illegal. Countries have tightened rules on using them — but not enough to satisfy anti-corruption activists.

News organizations working with the Washington-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists have been processing the legal records from the Mossack Fonseca law firm that were first leaked to the Sueddeutsche Zeitung newspaper based in Munich, Germany.

Police stand by as people protest against Iceland's PM Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson in Reykjavik Monday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Ramon Fonseca, a co-founder of Mossack Fonseca — one of the world's largest creators of shell companies — confirmed to Panama's Channel 2 that documents investigated by the ICIJ were authentic and had been obtained illegally by hackers. But he said most people identified in the reports were not his firm's direct clients but were accounts set up by intermediaries.

One of the most prominent subjects of the report is Russian President Vladimir Putin, although his name does not appear in the documents.

ICIJ said on its website that the documents show how complex offshore financial deals channeled as much as $2 billion to a network of people linked to Putin.

The ICIJ said the documents involve 214,488 companies and 14,153 clients of Mossack Fonseca. The data was from 1977 through 2015, the paper said. The newspaper and its partners verified the data's authenticity by comparing it to public registers, witness testimony and court rulings, Obermayer added.

Panama "is the last major holdout that continues to allow funds to be hidden offshore from tax and law enforcement authorities," said Angel Gurria, secretary-general of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Reports based on the leak said Iceland's Prime Minister Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson set up a company called Wintris Inc., in the British Virgin Islands in 2007 with his partner at the time, Anna Sigurlaug Palsdottir, who is now his wife.

He reportedly sold his half of the company to Palsdottir for $1 on Dec. 31, 2009, the day before a new Icelandic law took effect that would have required him to declare the ownership of Wintris as a conflict of interest.

Wintris lost money as a result of the 2008 financial crash that crippled Iceland, and is claiming a total of 515 million Icelandic kronur ($4.2 million) from the three failed Icelandic banks: Landsbanki, Glitnir, and Kaupthing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FOR MORE DETAILED COVERAGE, VISIT metronews.ca

### LOCAL MMA TRAINER INVOLVED

**Vancouverite's passport image appears in database**

Dave Feser
TWITTER.COM

Dave Feser, 50, a mixed-martial arts trainer in the Vancouver area, registered an anonymous corporation in British Anguilla with an office in Switzerland. "This is my personal business, and I don't want to discuss business plans that I'm doing," Feser said. "I'm a hard worker. ... There's nothing even associated with this company." In March 2011, Feser was charged with assault with a weapon in an alleged domestic incident, as well as 10 other firearms charges. In October of that year, Feser received a conditional discharge and had his court file sealed. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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# Cold-fX makers misled public: Suit

MEDICINE

## Customers exposed to health risk, documents say

The makers of Cold-fX are in court fighting allegations they ignored their own research and misled consumers about the short-term effectiveness of the popular cold and flu remedy.

Valeant Pharmaceuticals will oppose an application in British Columbia Supreme Court to grant the lawsuit class-action status.

Vancouver Island resident Don Harrison launched his original claim in 2012 against Valeant and its subsidiary, Afexa Life Sciences, over advertising saying that Cold-fX offered "immediate relief of cold and flu" if taken over a three-day period at the first sign of symptoms.

Harrison's notice of claim said Valeant and Afexa continued to "knowingly or recklessly" promote Cold-fX despite evidence the natural-health product only had a possible positive impact after being taken daily for prolonged periods of two-to-six months.

Valeant also unnecessarily exposed its customers to a health threat by distributing a useless drug with a risk of adverse side effects, he said.

**Boxes of Cold-fX medication**
THE CANADIAN PRESS

In a statement, the Laval, Que.-based company said it denies the accusations being made against it and will fight the application for class-action certification.

"Valeant believes the suit is without merit and is vigorously defending this matter," read the document. None of the allegations have been proven in court.

Afexa is the original manufacturer and licence holder of Cold-fX and was bought by Valeant in 2011.

Harrison's lawyer John Green also alleged Valeant and Afexa kept quiet about an internal study conducted in the early 2000s that contradicted the health claims around Cold-fX.

"The defendants knew at least as early as 2004, when they had a study done themselves, that Cold-fX might be even less effective than a placebo," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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**ELECTRIC CAR TESLA ORDERS STILL RIDING** A sales rep, left, helps a customer pre-order the Tesla Model 3 in Santa Monica, Calif., last week. Tesla Motors' CEO Elon Musk says worldwide orders for a new lower-priced electric car hit 276,000. Musk posted the number Sunday on his Twitter feed, and said if the trend continues orders will hit 500,000.
AFP/GETTY IMAGES

RIDESHARING

## Uber says taxis not app's top competition

Uber Canada's legal director says the ride-sharing outfit isn't spooked by the prospect of taxi companies developing their own competing app-based services.

Jeremy Millard, who took the job at Uber last summer after years as a litigator with major law firms, says taxis aren't Uber's main competition — private car ownership is.

He made his remarks during a question-and-answer session at the Corporate Counsel Association of Canada's national conference in Calgary.

The taxi industry has protested the ride-hailing service in various Canadian cities, arguing Uber drivers are at an unfair advantage because they are not subject to the same rules.

He says small differences between cities' ride-hailing rules can have a big impact on whether businesses like Uber are viable, using Edmonton and Calgary as examples.

For instance, Edmonton's bylaw requires Uber to pay the city $50,000 a year plus six cents per trip, whereas Calgary's charges individual drivers $220 a year for an operating licence.

It may seem like there's just a "somewhat technical distinction" between the fee structures in Alberta's two biggest cities, but Millard said "the smallest difference in a regulation can have vast impacts."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

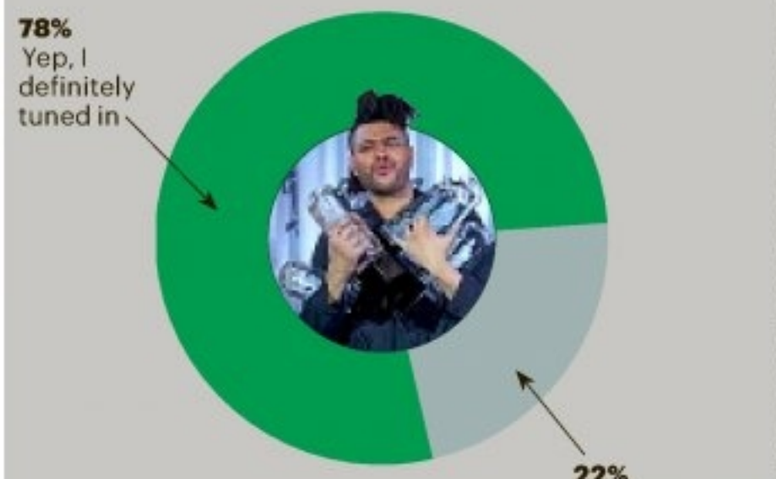
metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Tuesday, April 5, 2016

METRO POLL

# Do you rock with the Junos?

**Glitz and fame or kitsch and shame?**
The Juno Awards ceremony aired on Sunday. While some Canadians say the show provides our homegrown music industry with a much-needed injection of glamour, others think it's an unconvincing and ultimately embarrassing attempt to be something that we're not. We asked for your take, and your indifference to the event came through loud and clear.

**1 Did you watch the Junos on Sunday?**




**2 What do you think of the Junos, generally?**

**44%** Don't care. We're talking about an awards show. Yawn.
**31%** Love them. Let's celebrate our world-class talent!
**25%** Can't stand them. Just a poor facsimile of the Grammys.

**WE ASKED** Metro readers

**Honestly, I thought it was one of the better Juno shows in years.**

**Didn't watch. The Walking Dead was on at the same time.**

**Why watch celebrities pat each other on the back for hours on end?**

**I watched because I prefer Canadian culture to that c**p that comes from the U.S.!**

**I paid $500 for two tickets a few years ago and it was drab. I expected Hollywood lol! It was not.**

**I tend to be most interested in classical music and jazz. There's too little coverage of that to interest me in most music awards shows.**

visit metronews.ca
**HAVE YOUR SAY**

# B.C. deserves better than big-money politics

**CAPITAL IDEA**
**Kate Webb**

I'll admit it. The first time I read about Christy Clark's $20,000-a-plate fundraisers, in which donors pay for access to B.C.'s most powerful politician, I shrugged and thought, "What else is new? Isn't that just how politics works? How else would parties raise enough money to win an election?"

But it's not "just how politics works," and there are other models, and my initial apathy is indicative of how normalized B.C.'s culture of corruption has become. As I learned after some digging, most of the provinces in Canada, as well as the federal government, have banned these types of payments for access, because they are clear conflicts of interest.

Like Ontario — whose premier is currently caving (wisely) to similar pressure to reform campaign-finance laws — B.C. is one of the few jurisdictions left in Canada with no limits on how much individuals, corporations and unions can donate to political parties.

The good news is that, with the 2017 provincial election one year away, we are about to see a huge resurgence of the movement to get big money out of B.C. politics.

Democracy Watch, a non-partisan advocacy group, issued a press release last Thursday calling these private fundraisers attended by B.C. politicians "a clear violation of conflict-of-interest laws." The group is urging B.C. to adopt Quebec's model, which limits individual donations to $100 a year plus another $100 in election years, and bans union and corporate donations.

Joining them in the call for reform is environmental non-profit the Dogwood Initiative, which launched its own campaign in Victoria on Monday to "get big money out of politics."

Meanwhile, also in Victoria, the B.C. NDP is preparing to table a bill this week for the fourth time seeking to ban corporate and union donations. But that one is doomed to fail like the first three because the ruling B.C. Liberals don't want to lose out on their single largest source of cash.

A Vancouver Sun analysis found that, between 2005 and 2012, the Liberals raised $76 million, 61 per cent of which was from large corporations. In that same timeframe the NDP raised $40 million — 23 per cent of which came from unions. (70 per cent of the NDP's income was from individuals, while only 28 per cent of Liberal funds came from individuals.)

In response, all Premier Christy Clark has said she's willing to do is provide "real-time disclosure" on who is donating what to her party.

That token gesture does nothing to address the conflicts these payments create. But, of course, the last thing Clark wants is to level the playing field between the Libs and their adversaries.

The NDP's hands aren't clean either. Party Leader John Horgan has been attending private $5,000-a-plate fundraisers, but won't stop until the laws change because he doesn't want to try to win this election with one hand tied behind his back.

Some would say fair enough. But the idealist in me thinks the symbolic value of sacrificing cash in the name of integrity could send a powerful signal to voters — the kind that money can't buy.

But, hey, what do I know? A week ago I didn't even know that what passes for normal in this province is illegal in most others.

**ROSEMARY WESTWOOD**
**metroview**

# Panama Papers unite the world in an era of economic separation

Equal proximity.

That is what I have, and you have, along with people in Mexico, Indonesia, Pakistan, or Australia, to the revelations of the Panama Papers.

The massive leak of documents from a secretive Panamanian law firm exploded into the news cycle on Sunday. Since then, citizens in 78 countries have been learning how tax havens are impoverishing their nations while enriching the already rich.

An incredible 107 news organizations around the world collaborated on these documents in a yearlong investigation. The number of journalists on the project was 376. So editors at each participating outlet would have seconded an average three journalists, for a full year, to investigate the document's leads.

In an age of global media belt-tightening, where investigative journalism is increasingly too costly for some, that is significant. It says something about the scope and impact of global income inequality that this is a massive story right around the world.

I've balked at the rhetorical transformation of "citizens" into "taxpayers." It puts too much emphasis on how much we pay out; too little on how much we help each other. It trivializes our shared communities, in favour of elevating individual pet peeves.

But as these documents show, we're not even all taxpayers. Any Canadian can legally set up a shell company in a tax haven and avoid paying a fair share of their wealth. The practice is both legal and abominable. It's costing Canadians an estimated $6 billion a year. And our outrage is shared by people in other nations, reading their own localized version of the same story.

"The Panama Papers: Secrets of the Super Rich" ran the ABC network's special program in Australia. "Foreign deals of Kenya's big names exposed" ran a headline in Kenya's the Daily Nation.

There were headlines in the German newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung, Rede TV in Brazil, Prosecso in Mexico, Tempo in Indonesia, the Miami Herald and Alalam Alijadeed in Iraq. It would take a whole column just to name all the collaborators.

Under each headline, the same basic story: how secret financial practices undermine confidence, to whatever extent it exists in each nation, in the idea that we are all treated equally by government.

An especially cynical colleague doesn't think this gargantuan journalistic effort will bear much fruit. And it's true that the very rich have always played with a different set of cards. But perhaps we are in a new era of globalized outrage over income inequality? And maybe, on the wave of that outrage, we can change some of the rules of the game.

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Yves Saint Laurent names Anthony Vaccarello creative director, replacing Hedi Slimane

# ‘Nobody likes being a cog in the machine’

SMARTER BETTER FASTER

## Author says feeling in control boosts productivity

Megan Haynes
For Metro Canada

As he raced to finish his first book, The Power of Habit, author Charles Duhigg felt like he was stuck on a treadmill of emails. “It felt like the harder and faster I was running, the farther behind I was falling,” he says. “Working harder and making bigger sacrifices didn’t get me out from underneath the avalanche.”

While that wasn’t a pleasant experience, it did inspire his next book about productivity, Smarter Faster Better. Metro spoke with him about why control is important for motivation, tips to filtering out distractions and why being productive doesn’t mean being more efficient.

**How are productive people better at getting things done?**

The most productive people tend to tell themselves a story about what’s going on as it goes on. They spend 10 minutes each morning visualizing what’s going to happen each day. So when they’re in a situation where they have to decide “should I pay attention to this or should I ignore it?” it’s easy for them to make that decision because they have some story in their head about how their day is supposed to go, whereas the rest of us just react.

> **It’s not about being busier. It’s about making better choices.**
>
> Charles Duhigg on enhancing productivity

**What can nursing homes and the concept of control teach us about motivation and productivity?**

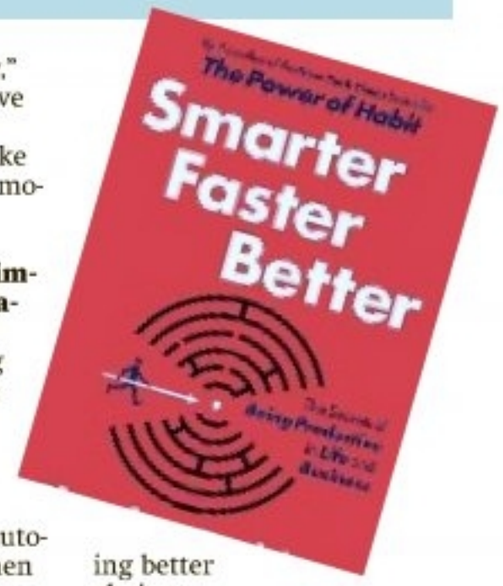
There was a question researchers asked in the 1980s: Why (do) some people move in to nursing homes and lose all motivation, essentially waiting to die, (while) others started exercising more, eating healthily and maintaining relationships with friends?

Those who were motivated to live would almost go out of their way to break the rules. (At this one nursing home) where everyone had an assigned meal, this one group of residents would trade all their food. This one guy loved chocolate cake, but instead of eating the cake he got every night, he would trade it for a fruit or a brownie. He said “I would rather eat a meal of my own design than eat the best chocolate cake that was forced on me.” That’s why this group of residents could motivate themselves. They kept looking for choices to prove they were still in control of their own lives. When you’re in your office inundated with emails and you feel like you just have to hit “reply, reply, reply,” finding some way to prove you’re still in control — some choice you can make — that’s how you spark motivation.

**Why is control such an important factor in motivation and productivity?**

Nobody likes being a cog in a machine. That’s one of the things that’s happened in the last 30 years we’ve often times mistaken efficiency for productivity. The more automatic we can make it, then that must mean it’s more productive. The busier I am, the more productive I am.

It’s actually the opposite: the more I can think “what’s the right way to spend my time? Do I have control over the choices I’m making?” that’s where productivity comes from. It’s not about being busier. It’s about making better choices.




Is productivity getting your kids to school as fast as possible so you can get to your desk and start getting work done? Or is it having the time to walk with your kids to school so you’re more relaxed. (You have to define) what is productivity to you.

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# Sit, stand and repeat for health

MOVEMENT

## This fun and simple exercise has many benefits

YuMee Chung
Torstar News Service

We all know the importance of staying fit, but did you know that doctors are now saying that your level of musculoskeletal fitness is a strong predictor of longevity?

This seemingly simple exercise based on the sitting-rising test designed by Brazilian physician Claudio Gil Araujo. It's a decent measure of flexibility, balance and strength and a graceful way to get up and down from the ground.

**Get Up, Stand Up**

1. Begin in a seated position on the floor with right ankle crossed snugly in front of left and the feet within inches of each other.
2. Attempt to stand up without using the hands for support. Start slowly and be prepared to put a hand down if you lose your balance.
3. Keep the ankles crossed as you lower yourself back down to a seated position.
4. Switch sides.
5. If you stood easily, without losing your balance, try this more challenging version: step the soles of the feet down on the ground with the inner big toes touching. Think standing feet.
6. Attempt to rise without using the hands for support. You will need to widen the knees away from your midline, reach your arms out in front, and rock your weight forward to gather a little momentum for this challenge. Again, be prepared to catch yourself.
7. Lower yourself to a seated position without moving your feet.
8. Switch sides.

Do this exercise on a regular basis to maintain mobility, coordination and muscle strength, and to decrease the risk of dangerous falls as you move into your golden years. According to a study by Brazilian physician Claudio Gil Araujo published in the European Journal of Cardiovascular Prevention, a simple test called the sitting-rising test (or SRT) can predict your chances of dying an early death.

Offering an explanation for the close correlation between the test scores and survival, Dr Araújo said: "It is well known that aerobic fitness is strongly related to survival, but our study also shows that maintaining high levels of body flexibility, muscle strength, power-to-body weight ratio and co-ordination are not only good for performing daily activities but have a favourable influence on life expectancy."

YuMee Chung is a recovering lawyer who teaches yoga in Toronto. She is on the faculty of several yoga teacher training programs and leads international yoga retreats. Learn more about her at padmani.com.

BABY BOOMER HEALTH

## Risky actions not cause of Hep C peak: Study

Canadian researchers have determined the peak of the hepatitis C epidemic in North America occurred about 15 years earlier than previously believed, suggesting it wasn't youthful indiscretions that put baby boomers at a high risk for the disease.

And that means, say researchers, that all those who belong to the post-Second World War generation should be screened for the potentially deadly infection, which can take up to 50 years to manifest symptoms.

An estimated 300,000 Canadians are infected with hepatitis C, with baby boomers — the generation born between 1946 and 1964 — making up about 75 per cent of cases. Over time, hepatitis C can severely scar the liver, leading to cirrhosis, and is a known cause of liver cancer as well as liver failure.

It was long thought that boomers who were infected with the blood-borne virus likely contracted the disease in their late teens or early 20s, due to such risky behaviours as IV drug use or sexual experimentation.

But a study by B.C. researchers found the peak of the hepatitis C epidemic occurred about 1950, when many baby boomers were young children, and had plateaued by 1960 — well before the zenith of injection drug use at the end of that decade.

**STIGMA**

Dr. Julio Montaner suggested stigma associated with hepatitis C — arising from the belief the infection was contracted due to IV drug use or "rough sex" — has been misplaced. "So hepatitis C testing has always carried a certain degree of stigma and it's been a difficult conversation," he said.

The oldest of the baby boomers were just five years old at the peak of the epidemic.

"The spread of hepatitis C in North America occurred at least 15 years earlier than it was suspected before, and if that is the case, the baby boomer epidemic ... cannot be explained by behavioural indiscretions on the part of the baby boomers," said co-investigator Dr. Julio Montaner, director of the BC Centre of Excellence in HIV/AIDS.

"We suspect that this is more likely attributable to medical practices at the time," said Montaner, explaining that hepatitis C hadn't yet been identified and injections and blood transfusions were given employing reusable glass-tube syringes and metal needles, which were subject to contamination despite boiling.

"The baby boomers in North America ought to be offered hepatitis C screening," he said, "not because they did anything wrong but because they are baby boomers, and so they were alive at a time in which the standard of care was such that we are all potentially at risk of having contracted hepatitis C."

A plateau in the spread of hepatitis C infections was observed between 1960 and 1990, consistent with the hypothesis that changes in injection technology were a driving factor.

Montaner suggested that stigma associated with a diagnosis of hepatitis C — arising from the belief the infection was contracted due to IV drug use or "rough sex" — has been misplaced. "So people have been generally not coming forward to test, and physicians had usually not been offering hepatitis C screening very readily," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MATERNAL HEALTH

## SMOKING MAY ALTER GENES OF FETUS

**Researchers find changes linked to cancer, defects**

Women who smoke while pregnant may be chemically altering the DNA of the developing fetus, a major study published in the American Journal of Human Genetics found.

Doctors have warned smoking can lead to stillbirth, or babies born with cleft palate, lung disease, or neurobehavioral problems. Among smokers in the study, researchers identified "6,073 places where the DNA was chemically modified differently" than in newborns of non-smoking moms.

Changes were seen in genes relating to lung and nervous system development, smoking-related cancers, and birth defects.

"Many signals tied into developmental pathways," said co-author Bonnie Joubert, an epidemiologist at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), noting that changes were seen in genes relating to lung and nervous system development, smoking-related cancers, and birth defects such as cleft lip and cleft palate.

The DNA changes were documented in samples of umbilical cord blood drawn after birth.

Such changes were less apparent in mothers who smoked less frequently during pregnancy. A separate analysis found that some DNA modifications remained apparent in a group of hundreds of older children — those with an average age of six — whose mothers had smoked while pregnant.

According to Christopher Gregg, an assistant professor of neurobiology and anatomy and human genetics at the University of Utah, the study's size helps "to more effectively rule out potentially confounding factors, such as maternal age and socioeconomic status. It is well established that pregnant women should not smoke, but these new results reveal that smoking during pregnancy leaves a lasting mark on the genome that persists into childhood, and identifies the sites and genes in the genome that are especially susceptible to these effects," he said.

AFP

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JOHANNA SCHNELLER
WHAT I'M WATCHING

# Brother-sister bond explored

**THE SHOW: Casual, Season 1, Episode 1 (Crave/Hulu)**
**THE MOMENT: The opening scene**

Valerie (Michaela Watkins) and Alex (Tommy Dewey), brother and sister, are at their father's funeral, talking smack.

"Her husband tried to kill himself last year," Valerie says about one woman.

"That makes sense," Alex responds, then gestures to his dad's corpse. "He'll be forgotten in a week." He wakes with a start. It's just a dream.

Later, Alex — a louche bachelor who's created a dating site — relates the dream to Valerie, a psychiatrist who recently separated from her husband and moved into Alex's house with her teenage daughter. "Everyone's so awful, it's impossible not to sh*t on them," Alex says. "Even in my dreams I don't relate to people."

Valerie's equally damaged. When Alex urges her, "Go be with somebody," she replies, "I don't know if I can."

As they say in screenwriting, Theme Stated. In a few swift scenes, we know exactly what this series, from creator Zander Lehmann and producer Jason Reitman, is about: A relationship that's rarely explored on screen (brother/sister) is the only one these two can manage. We'll watch for its snappy one-liners — "The whole faculty is depraved," a high-schooler says. "They're like Eyes Wide Shut on minimum wage" — and to see if the two leads will soften and grow.

Also interesting: Cynicism and unlikeability used to be the purview of film, while half-hour sitcoms were populated by fluffy characters we chuckled with. The proliferation of streamed TV (Hulu, Amazon, Netflix, et al) is changing that faster than you can say Flaked, You're the Worst, Hello Ladies… et al.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

**Casual is about a brother/sister relationship that's rarely explored on screen.** CONTRIBUTED

**Mike Smith, centre, better known as Bubbles from the Trailer Park Boys — posing with John Paul Tremblay, as Julian, left, and Robb Wells, as Ricky, right — denies committing a misdemeanour offence for which he has been charged.** THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

# 'No bad feelings' actress says after quitting show

**TRAILER PARK BOYS**

## DeCoutere says cast and crew are still her friends

> **I am floored by the hundreds of derogatory, cruel and heartless messages.**
> Lucy DeCoutere

Former Trailer Park Boys actress Lucy DeCoutere insists she remains friends with the cast and crew of the show she has resigned from despite saying her departure was linked to the arrest of a co-star in the U.S.

DeCoutere announced her resignation on Twitter on Saturday and said it was connected to one of the show's principal actors being charged with misdemeanour domestic battery a day earlier.

A publicist for the Trailer Park Boys, however, reportedly said DeCoutere told the show's producer a few weeks ago that she would not be returning next season.

Late Sunday night, DeCoutere said it had been an "extremely tough" weekend.

"The TPB cast and crew are still my friends and there are no bad feelings between us," DeCoutere tweeted before adding. "I am floored by the hundreds of derogatory, cruel and heartless messages I've read. For those who are being kind? Rock on! You make TPB fun."

DeCoutere has become a well-known figure across the country after testifying against former CBC broadcaster Jian Ghomeshi at his sexual assault trial. He was found not guilty last month.

DeCoutere's co-star, Mike Smith, who played the character Bubbles on the cult comedy show, was arrested in Los Angeles on Friday, booked on suspicion of misdemeanour domestic battery and released hours later on bail.

He denied any wrongdoing in a written statement, saying the woman involved in the incident was a friend of his with whom he had a "loud and heated dispute."

"At no time did I assault her. I am not guilty of the misdemeanour charged against me," he said.

In the same statement, which was issued by the "Trailer Park Boys," a woman who says she was described as the alleged victim in the incident also denied the police allegations.

"It saddens me the way things are being reported and the way it was handled by the police," the woman is quoted as saying "At no point did I feel I was in danger."

After news of Smith's arrest surfaced, DeCoutere tweeted: "If I find out that somebody is abusive, I cut them out of my life" and then announced she was leaving the show.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Junos after-party toasts Canadian music

Hours after Sunday's Juno Awards wrapped, some of Canada's most celebrated musicians were putting on their own impromptu show in a local bar's basement.

Both Juno nominees and music veterans jumped on stage at the Warner Music Canada after-party for what quickly became a professional karaoke of sorts that couldn't even be sidelined by a flood on the dance floor.

"I think we legit overpowered our monitors," country singer Brett Kissel proclaimed late in the evening at the Palomino Smokehouse in downtown Calgary. "That's how much fun we're having out here."

Warner's annual invite-only Juno party has become an essential stop for many artists, record label employees and their friends because of its sheer unpredictability.

Among the performers who played throughout the night were mainstays of the Canadian music scene like Blue Rodeo's Jim Cuddy and his son Devin.

> **I think we legit overpowered our monitors … That's how much fun we're having out here.**
> Brett Kissel, country singer

Tom Cochrane unexpectedly showed up to charge through some of his trademark hits.

Broken Social Scene's Kevin Drew then emerged from the crowd to join Cochrane.

His show came shortly after the basement dishwasher began pouring water onto the floor, briefly pushing the audience against the walls to avoid sopping their shoes. The bar's staff quickly pulled out mops and cleaned up the space so the show could go on.

Great Big Sea frontman Alan Doyle started his set with Rock Around the Clock before taking on a few other old favourites.

But it was pop singer Francesco Yates and newcomer Scott Helman who were the powerhouse pair of the night, returning to the stage several times to play classic rock staples.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Scott Helman, seen here performing at the Juno Awards.**
JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

metro SPORTS

"Man, I am a Hall of Famer and that's all you can think about — me saying practice": Allen Iverson who still takes flak for his 2002 "practice" rant

Canucks centre Jared McCann scores past Kings forward Dustin Brown and goaltender Jonathan Quick on Monday night at Rogers Arena. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Canucks earn first 3-game win streak

NHL

## Victories have come against playoff-bound Calif. teams

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

MONDAY in Vancouver

| 3 | 2 |
|---|---|
| CANUCKS | KINGS |

Mark the date in your calendars: April 4, 2016 — the night the Vancouver Canucks finally won their third consecutive game of this season.

It's a momentous occasion. But those in the fan base hoping for the highest possible draft pick aren't likely to be happy about it. The Canucks' 3-2 victory over the playoff-bound and visiting L.A. Kings at Rogers Arena on Monday moves them to 25th in the NHL's overall standings.

Still, in a season tilted heavily toward more downs than ups, the Canucks are not only on a three-game winning streak, finally, but they have accomplished the feat against California opponents from San Jose, Anaheim and L.A.

All three of those teams are going to the Stanley Cup tournament, while the Canucks are not and have known their fate for some time.

The Kings dominated the first period. Once again, it looked like a three-game win streak would elude the Canucks. Tyler Toffoli opened the scoring for L.A. after a breakdown in Vancouver's defensive end just six minutes into the game.

But just seconds before the end of the first period, the Canucks tallied on a goal from Emerson Etem.

Once again down by a goal in the second period, after Kyle Clifford restored the lead for L.A., the Canucks came back.

Jannik Hansen started the turnaround by scoring on a 5-on-3 power play, giving him 21 goals on the season. Just 4:05 later, rookie Jared McCann busted in all alone and beat goalie Jonathan Quick with a move to the forehand, giving the Canucks their first lead of the game and snapping his own personal goal drought at nine games.

Ryan Miller made 40 saves for the win.

# Tavares leads Islanders past Lightning

John Tavares got his 30th goal and two assists, and the New York Islanders scored three times in a 5:15 span to get a crucial 5-2 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Monday night.

Ryan Pulock, Matt Martin, Brock Nelson and Johnny Boychuk also scored for the Islanders, and Thomas Greiss had 32 saves. New York holds the Eastern Conference's first wild-card spot and won for the third time in four games to reduce its magic number to two over Boston to secure a third straight post-season berth.

Alex Killorn and Victor Hedman scored for the Lightning, and Ben Bishop gave up five goals on 23 shots before he was replaced by Andrei Vasilevskiy, who stopped 13 shots. Tampa Bay remained two points behind first-place Florida in the Atlantic Division, and the Lightning's magic number for their third consecutive playoff berth remained at one.

MONDAY in New York

| 5 | 2 |
|---|---|
| ISLANDERS | LIGHTNING |

The Lightning were without star Steven Stamkos, who had surgery to remove a blood clot from near his right collarbone Monday and is expected to miss one to three months.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

# Rangers get by M's with just one hit

Cole Hamels handed Felix Hernandez his first opening day loss and the Texas Rangers managed to win with just one hit, beating the Seattle Mariners 3-2 Monday.

Prince Fielder blooped an RBI single off Hernandez during a three-run fifth inning that included three walks and two errors.

Seattle had a chance to join the Boston Beaneaters (1887-96) as the only major league clubs to win 10 straight openers. Robinson Cano and Kyle Seager homered early for the Mariners, but the midgame mistakes cost them the lead in the debut of manager Scott Servais.

> **Felix just lost command a little bit, and we didn't make all the plays behind him.**
> Mariners manager Scott Servais

Hernandez fell to 6-1 in nine opening day starts. Hampered by a lack of run support throughout much of his career, the ace gave up one earned run in six innings, walking five and striking out six. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Blue Jays club trio of homers vs. Rays

Josh Donaldson, Michael Saunders and Josh Thole homered to help R.A. Dickey and the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Tampa Bay Rays 5-3 in their opener on Monday night.

All three of the home runs were hit off Drew Smyly, with Donaldson connecting for a solo shot in the fifth inning, Saunders delivering a two-run homer in the fourth and Thole going deep on a third-inning drive that umpires initially ruled was a double after a fan interfered by catching the ball before it reached the stands.

The call was reversed after a replay review, erasing a 1-0 Tampa Bay lead.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blue Jays centre-fielder Kevin Pillar makes a leaping catch on Monday night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN BRIEF

**Conte to manage Chelsea**

Antonio Conte will take charge of Chelsea after completing his spell as Italy coach at the European Championship with the task of revitalizing a team in decline.

Roman Abramovich made Conte his 10th managerial appointment in 13 years as Chelsea owner despite the former Juventus player and coach facing match-fixing charges in Italy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Buzzer-beater nets Villanova NCAA title**

Kris Jenkins spotted up and sank a three-pointer at the buzzer Monday night to lift Villanova to the national basketball title with a 77-74 victory over North Carolina — one of the wildest finishes in the history of the NCAA Tournament.

Villanova worked the ball to Jenkins moments after Marcus Paige hit a double-clutch three to draw the Tar Heels even.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Canada's Meaghan Mikkelson** checks the United States' Brianna Decker in front of goalie Emerance Maschmeyer during the gold-medal of the women's world hockey championship on Monday in Kamloops. For the story, go to metronews.ca.
RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

## B.C. knocking on national team door

The three biggest international women's hockey events have now been held in British Columbia without a player from the province on the Canadian team.

The 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, the 2014 Four Nations Cup and the 2016 women's world hockey championships have come and gone without a B.C. player in them.

The fact that goaltender Danielle Dube was the only British Columbian to play for Canada in a world championship over two decades ago is a head-scratcher.

B.C. has double the number of registered female players than Nova Scotia, which put two players on Canada's team in Kamloops.

The 2010 Winter Games were a turning point for girls' hockey in B.C., in both inspiring girls to play for Canada and BC Hockey getting serious about how to get them there.

"We're not sitting here concerned, but it has been a wake-up call and has been for a number of years that we haven't placed a player on the team," BC Hockey chief executive officer Barry Petrachenko said.

"We feel like we're close. It would have been great if we were two years down the road when the world championships came because I think we would have somebody on the team."

B.C. was close this year. Sarah Potomak of Aldergrove wore the Maple Leaf in November's Four Nations Cup in Sweden. The 18-year-old forward was among the last players cut from Canada's world championship roster. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Richmond native has NHL waiting in wings

NCAA HOCKEY

## Stecher has option of forgoing senior college year

**Troy Stecher**'s North Dakota Fighting Hawks will take on the University of Denver Pioneers in one of two national semifinals. MADDIE MEYER/GETTY IMAGES

Troy Stecher wouldn't mind coming home.

The defenceman for the University of North Dakota is getting ready for the NCAA Frozen Four tournament this week in Tampa, Fla., but win or lose will soon have to make a big decision.

A junior with the Fighting Hawks, Stecher is on of U.S. college hockey's most sought-after undrafted free agents and could sign with an NHL team once North Dakota's season ends.

He also has the option to return to school for his senior year, but if Stecher decides to ink a professional contract, the native of Richmond says the Vancouver Canucks are on his list of potential suitors.

"My dad used to have season tickets to the Canucks with his old company," Stecher said in a phone interview Monday. "When I was a little kid I dreamed about playing for the Canucks."

Stecher, who will turn 22 on Thursday when North Dakota meets the University of Denver Pioneers in one of two national semifinals, has eight goals and 20 assists in 41 games this season.

> **"At the end of the day it's a business and you kind of have to look past that factor of it being your hometown.**
> Troy Stecher on possibly signing with the Canucks

At five-foot-11 and 191 pounds, he was passed over in three straight NHL drafts from 2012 to 2014, but started to turn heads as a sophomore while helping North Dakota to a second straight Frozen Four appearance.

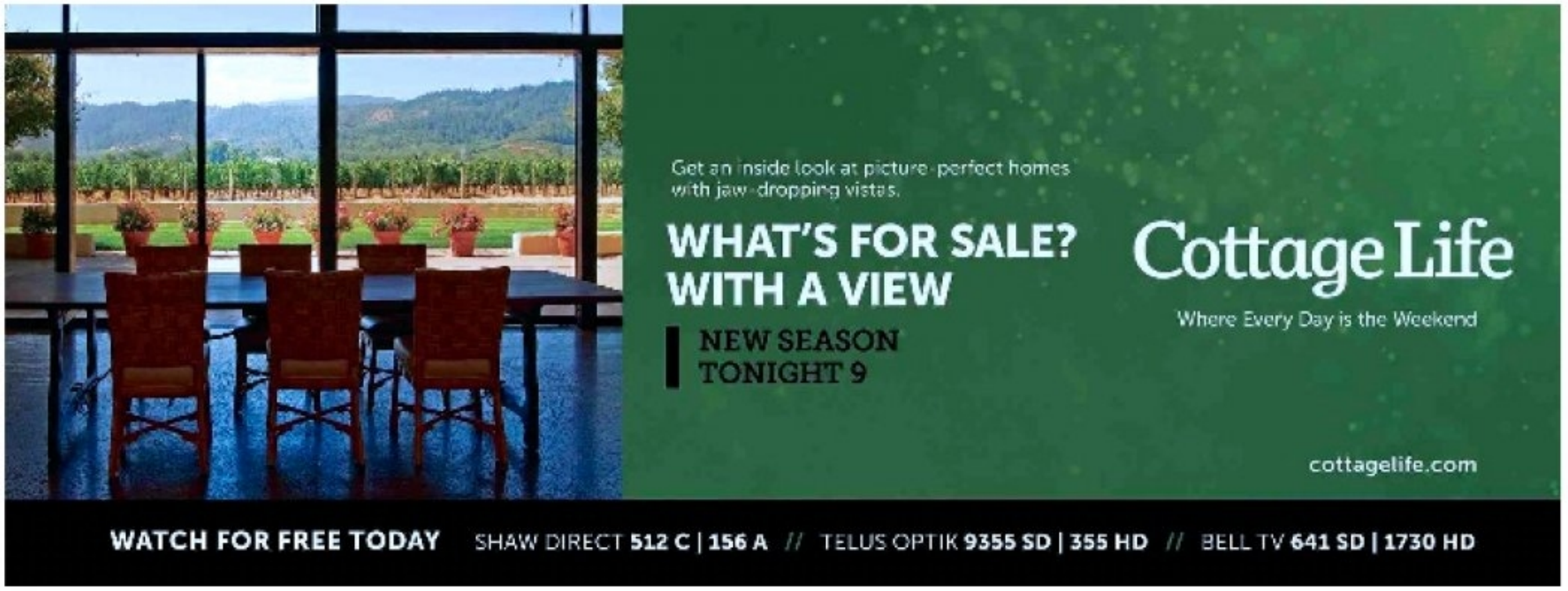
A smooth-skating defender who can jump into the rush, Stecher is finally getting noticed after being overlooked numerous times in his career.

"You're not drafted (to the NHL) so you're pretty disappointed," he said.

"Now you're finally starting to get a lot of interest from different teams, so you feel excited.

"It can be distracting, but at the same time I'm trying to live in the moment. We're in a great place right now."

In his three years with the Fighting Hawks, Stecher has 13 goals and 39 assists in 117 games and was named an assistant captain for the 2015-16 campaign. THE CANADIAN PRESS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# RECIPE Blueberry Coconut Stuffed French Toast

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**
For Metro Canada

Treat yourself to a decadent breakfast-for-dinner tonight.

**Ready in**
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

**Ingredients**
- 6 Tbsps mascarpone cheese
- 2 tsps fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp zest of lemon
- 1 tsp coconut sugar (or regular)
- 1/2 cup fresh blueberries, pureed
- 4 slices thick multigrain bread or challah
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup of coconut milk
- 2 tsps vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup unsweetened coconut flakes for garnish
- fresh blueberries for garnish
- maple syrup
- butter for pan

**Directions**

**1.** In a bowl mix the mascarpone cheese, lemon juice, zest and sugar. In a blender puree the blueberries. Stir the blueberry mixture into the cheese mix.

**2.** In a bowl that you can sink your bread into, whisk the eggs, milk and vanilla. Set aside.

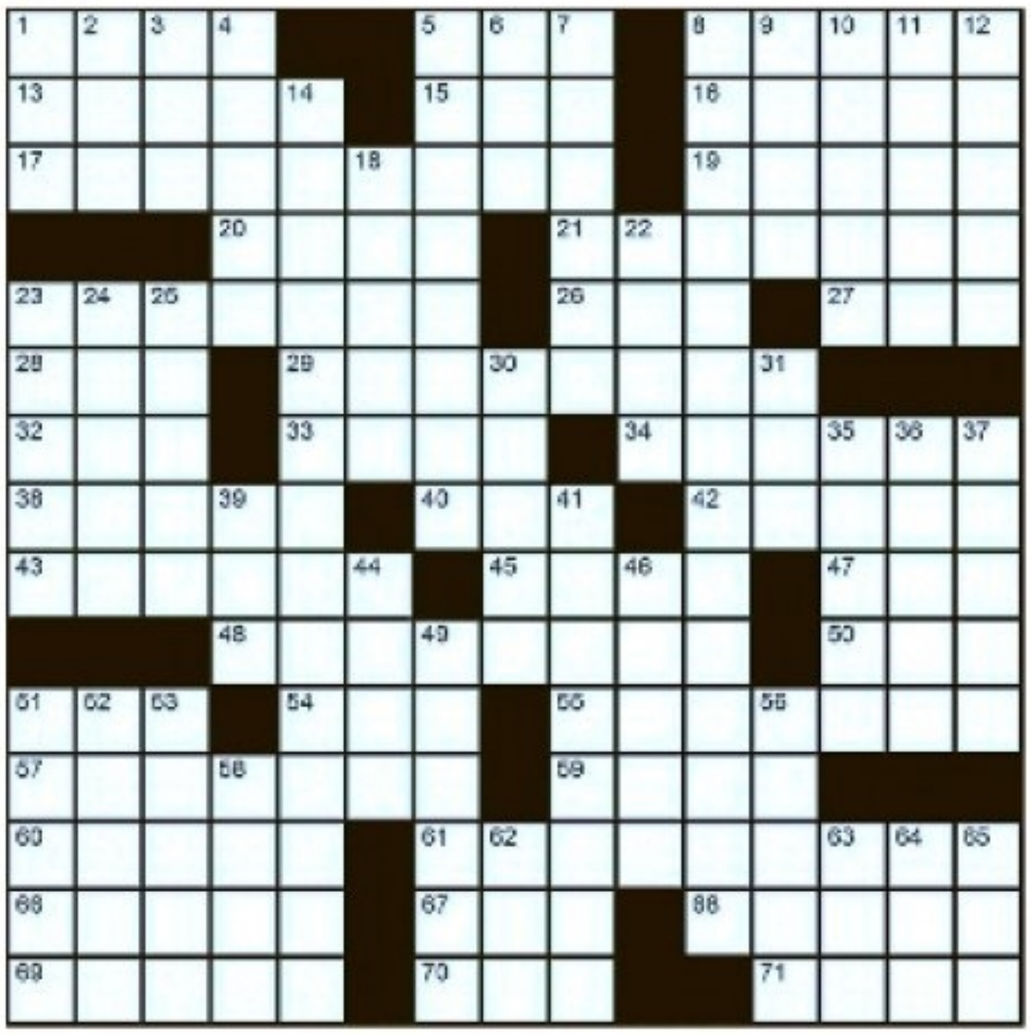
**3.** Take a thick slice of bread, cut it in half and, down the center of the slice to nearly the other corner, cut a pocket. Take a tablespoon or so of the cheese mixture and fill the pocket. Dunk the 1/2 slice into the egg mix, flipping to fully coat. Continue until you've filled and dunked all the triangles.

**4.** Place slices in a warm frying pan that you've coated with a tablespoon of butter. Cook on both sides until golden brown. Remove from pan and serve with blueberries, sprinkle of coconut and maple syrup.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**ACROSS**
1. Podium
5. Green Gables home, commonly
8. Baltimore NFL player
13. _ _ nothing
15. Ms. Rand
16. Express a thought
17. Like a movie with Oscar-winning stars
19. Stupefy
20. Italian car
21. Approximate
23. Move onward
26. Long-snouted fish
27. Bashful
28. Flyer to a flower
29. 'On the Edge of Everywhere' port town in Nova Scotia
32. Friend: French
33. Through
34. 1982 Robin Williams movie character based on the John Irving novel, _._. _
38. Polynesian archipelago kingdom
40. Wood cutter
42. Irish actor, Milo _
43. Some written works
45. Bank dealing
47. Ms. Miller
48. TV show backers
50. Born, in bridal bios
51. Tree chopping
54. Fleuve's flower
55. Cracks the cipher
57. Hangar hangout
59. Farm fabrication
60. Shut-eye
61. Do this a little in the Trooper song: 2 wds.
66. Relating to bristles
67. Lodge
68. _ _. Coyote
69. Pontificate
70. 'Yes' at sea
71. Detect

**DOWN**
1. Stealing bird
2. Ginger drink
3. _-defined (Vague)
4. Syllable-singing system
5. Designs
6. Blinker
7. Canadian bookstore
8. Canadian invention in the workshop since 1908: 2 wds.
9. Acme
10. Some charge cards
11. Cain's biblical son
12. Mesh-like
14. Gordon Lightfoot song that seems fitting for April's weather: 3 wds.
18. Chocolate source
22. Seagoing, shortly
23. Slacken
24. Audition tapes
25. Leaf's lines
30. Servings of food
31. Sci-Fi writer Mr. Wells, et al.
35. "Can you give me _ _?" (I need some help here)
36. Ms. Zellweger
37. Window parts
39. Motorist's purchase
41. _ Racetrack (Venue of the Queen's Plate every summer in Toronto)
44. Glide
46. Spheres
49. Beaver-like rodent called a 'river rat'
51. Rodeo rope
52. Edmonton NHL player
53. Film legend Ms. Garbo
56. "Union's been on strike / He's down _ _ luck ...it's tough, so tough." - Bon Jovi
58. _ moss
62. "Well, in _ event..."
63. "Lucky Man" gr.
64. Mr. Tolstoy
65. Allow

# IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

**Aries** March 21 - April 20
Today you feel down-to-earth about life. You want to approach practical projects in a tangible way. Nevertheless, this is a poor day for important decisions or major purchases.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21
Behind-the-scenes research might reveal something useful for you today. Listen to the advice of others, especially those who are older or more experienced.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21
In discussion with groups and friends, someone will have some practical advice for you. Quite likely, this person is older or more experienced. Nevertheless, postpone important decisions until tomorrow.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23
You will impress people in power today because they see you as reliable, conscientious and practical. However, this is a poor day to volunteer for anything or to agree to anything important. Wait until tomorrow.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23
You can accomplish a lot of studying or learning something new because it's easy to concentrate today. A teacher or guru-like figure might impress you.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Do your homework today to tie together loose ends regarding inheritances, taxes, debt and insurance issues. Nevertheless, this is a poor day for important decisions.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Discussions with partners and close friends will be practical and concern long-range plans for the future. Just kick these ideas around, because you should postpone important decisions until tomorrow.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will accomplish a lot at work today because you find it easy to concentrate and pay attention to detail. You won't even mind doing routine tasks. Bravo!

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Children might be a serious responsibility today. This is also a good day to deal with practical applications for creative projects.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
A family discussion with someone older might be helpful today. This person might choose to offer you assistance.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You're in a serious frame of mind today, which is why you are willing to do routine tasks that help you feel better organized. This is also a good day to study new subjects and learn something.

**Pisces**
Feb. 20 - March 20
You're in the frame of mind to make financial plans for the future. That's fine. Do your homework. But postpone important purchases and important decisions until tomorrow.

**CONCEPTIS SUDOKU** by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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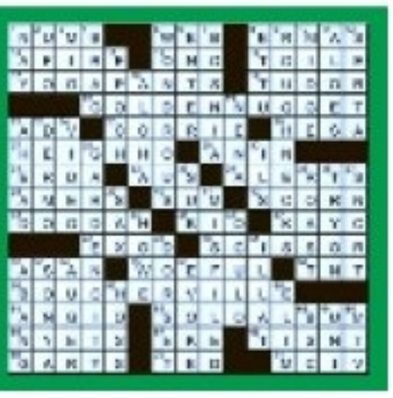

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[1] Welcome Bonus of 15,000 Aeroplan Miles ("Welcome Bonus Miles") will be awarded to the Aeroplan Member account associated with the TD Aeroplan *Visa Infinite** Card Account ("Account") only after the first Purchase is made on the Account. To receive the additional 10,000 Aeroplan Miles, you must also: (a) apply for an Account between March 1, 2016, and May 27, 2016; and (b) make $1,000 in Purchases on your Account, including your first Purchase, within 90 days of Account approval. To receive the additional 5,000 Aeroplan Miles you must also (a) apply for an Account and add an Authorized User between March 1, 2016, and May 27, 2016; (b) Authorized User must call and activate their Card by July 15, 2016, and (c) your Account must be in good standing at the time this 5,000 Bonus Aeroplan Miles is awarded. You can have a maximum of three (3) Authorized Users on your Account but you will only receive 1 (one) 5,000 Bonus Aeroplan Miles offer. Annual Fee for each Authorized User Card added to the Account will apply. The Primary Cardholder is responsible for all charges to the Account, including those made by any Authorized User. If you have opened an Account in the last 6 months, you will not be eligible for these offers. We reserve the right to limit the number of Accounts opened by and the number of miles awarded to any one person. Please allow 8 weeks after the conditions for each offer are fulfilled for the miles to be credited to your Aeroplan Member account. Offers may be changed, withdrawn or extended at any time and cannot be combined with any other offer unless otherwise specified. These miles are not eligible for Aeroplan status. All trade-marks are property of their respective owners. ® The Air Canada maple leaf logo and Air Canada are registered trade-marks of Air Canada, used under license. ® The Aeroplan logo and Aeroplan are registered trade-marks of Aimia Canada Inc. ® The TD logo and other trade-marks are the property of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.